

CLAIMS OF THE INVENTION

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3 1. A method for generating a consistency point comprising the steps of:
4 marking a plurality of inodes pointing to a plurality of modified blocks
5 in a file system as being in a consistency point;
6 flushing regular files to storage means;
7 flushing special files to said storage means.;
8 flushing at least one block of file system information to said storage
9 means; and,
10 requeueing any dirty inodes that were not part of said consistency
11 point.

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13 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of flushing said special files
14 to said storage means further comprises the steps of:

15 pre-flushing an inode for a blockmap file to an inode file;
16 allocating space on said storage means for all dirty blocks in said
17 inode and said blockmap files;
18 flushing said inode for said blockmap file again;
19 updating a plurality of entries in said blockmap file wherein each en-
20 try of said plurality of entries represents a block on said storage means;
21 and,
22 writing all dirty blocks in said blockmap file and said inode file to said
23 storage means.

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